

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE JAVITS-WAGNER-O'DAY PROGRAM

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program for their strong portrayal of public service and dedication to the blind and severely disabled.

For the past 64 years JWOD has provided 38,000 disabled Americans with opportunity, incentive, and employment. Through this program, dedicated employees provide federal and military consumers with a wide array of SKILCRAFT and other high JWOD products and services.

In addition, JWOD provides a plethora of product categories that include office supplies, military specific, safety, maintenance, repair, medical-surgical, janitorial-sanitation, and customization. JWOD also provides many service to the federal and military customers that include call center and switchboard operations, military base and federal office building supply centers, CD-Rom duplication-replication, data entry, document imaging, and grounds care.

I commend Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program and the opportunities it provides for an under-employed category of deserving citizens. Furthermore, due to the exceptional quality and socioeconomic benefits of the program I urge my colleagues to purchase SKILCRAFT and JWOD products from the Capitol Hill Office Supply Store.

The JWOD Program is administered by the president-appointed Committee For Purchase From People Who are Blind and Disabled, assisted by National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and NISH, who work in co-operation with more than 650 non-profit agencies to ensure disabled persons receive quality employment.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my warmest gratitude to the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program for their admirable contributions to Fairfax County, Virginia. The program is distinguished through their devotion on disabled citizens and community service. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding their achievements and supporting their cause.

RECOGNITION OF ANDREW MICHAEL PEPPER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Michael Pepper, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of

America, Troop 121, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as camp Geiger. Over the 11 years he has been involved in scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as librarian, scribe, instructor, patrol leader and senior patrol leader. Andrew also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as Junior Leader Training Award and the Bronze Eagle Palm Award.

For his Eagle Scout project, Andrew constructed an ornamental flower garden at the main entrance of Simpson park in Chillicothe, MO.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew Michael Pepper for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MR. JOHN ISSAC LEE OF HICKOX, GA

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to honor Mr. John Isaac Lee today. Mr. Lee is a champion of education as well as a devoted husband and father. John is the longest serving member of the Brantley County Board of Education and will be retiring after 36 years of service at the end of this term. It is for his service to the State of Georgia and the people of Brantley County that I wish to thank him, and I can think of no better place to honor him, than within these great walls of the U.S. House of Representatives.

John Lee was first nominated to be on the Brantley County Board of Education by Mrs. Mabel Moody and elected by grand jury on October 1, 1968. From that time until now, he has served in this capacity continuously, with not one break in service. In fact, during his 34 year tenure, he has missed only one regularly scheduled meeting; which was when he decided that he would attend his son's graduation from the University of Georgia. Mr. Lee has believed in his commitment to the students that he served. It is only fitting that when John decided to have hip replacement surgery on both of his hips, he made sure that the surgery and recovery would not conflict with any of his duties as a board member.

The students and teachers that live in Brantley County all know how wonderful Mr. Lee is, Mr. Speaker. But probably none know as well as his family that loves him so dearly. In addition to being a county school board member, John Lee was married to Mrs. Eula Mae Herrin for 58 years before she passed away, unfortunately, on October 16, 1998. Together they raised 3 sons and 3 daughters, and John is the proud grandfather of 15

grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. They can all be proud of John and join with me in celebrating his life and thanking him for his tireless service.

It is hard to imagine that someone could commit 36 years of their life to one cause and do it so well. But John Lee has done that as a member of the Brantley County education board, and he has done it with great humility. I am glad that Mr. Lee will now be able to relax and enjoy his life as a simple farmer, which is his natural profession, having farmed all of his life. He is a deacon and member of Hickox Baptist Church, and it is high time that he be able to enjoy the days in Hickox, GA. He has earned his time to rest, and the entire State of Georgia is indebted to him and his service. Thank you John Lee, you have meant more to the people of Brantley County than you could know, and you will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO SAM H. BOYCE

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Arkansan and an outstanding citizen. I am proud to recognize Sam Boyce in the U.S. Congress for his invaluable contributions and service to his community, his state and his nation.

Sam showed signs of the talent, determination and achievement that have been the hallmarks of his career at an early age, when he graduated valedictorian from Tuckerman High School in 1949. After receiving a bachelor of science in journalism from the University of Arkansas, Sam served his country in the Armed Forces, rising to the rank of Second Lieutenant in the Army Signal Corps.

In 1958, Sam graduated with his law degree from the University of Arkansas. Since then, Sam used his legal acumen to champion the rights of Arkansans in the legal system and to assume a leading role on two issues of particular importance to the people of Arkansas: worker's compensation and Social Security. During his career, he co-chaired United Labor of Arkansas, chaired the Arkansas Trial Lawyers Worker's Compensation section and served on the Legislative Ad Hoc committee on Worker's Compensation Reform. His work on Social Security issues includes chairing the Social Security Committee of the Arkansas Bar Association and his continuing service on the Executive Committee of the National Organization of Social Security Claimants Representatives.

Above all, Sam's career has centered on service and leadership. In the 1960's, Sam twice ran for statewide office, including a gubernatorial bid in 1966. Later, Sam was a member of the Arkansas Bar Association House of Delegates and continues to serve on the Board of Governors of the Arkansas Trial Lawyers.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

He's a man who has truly used his talents and abilities, particularly his legal expertise, to benefit the people in his community and across Arkansas. He has made life better and richer for all—like me—who were lucky enough to call him a friend. On behalf of Congress, I pay tribute to Sam Boyce for his tireless service to the people of Arkansas and the United States.

HONORING INOVA MOUNT VERNON HOSPITAL, THE MOUNT VERNON-LEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LARGE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR, 2002

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, which was named the 2002 Large Business of the Year from the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce.

Having served its community with steadfast dedication for over 25 years, Inova Mount Vernon Hospital is well deserving of this recognition. Since 1977, Inova Mount Vernon Hospital has been devoted to providing quality health care services in the most customer-friendly service environment possible.

In 2002 the hospital implemented its "Service Excellence—Straight From the Heart" focus to provide all staff, volunteers, and physicians additional tools to meet and exceed the service expectations of their patients. This new service campaign produced fantastic results, with inpatient and outpatient satisfaction increasing substantially.

In the interest of promoting health and wellness, the hospital regularly offers free blood pressure screenings and each fall provides an opportunity for community members to receive flu shots. Health fairs and free health screenings are frequently offered as well. Through these activities, Inova Mount Vernon Hospital has clearly established itself as a prominent and vital member of the Northern Virginia business and health care communities.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I call upon my colleagues to join me in congratulating Inova Mount Vernon Hospital and its staff for their many achievements, and wish them continued success in the future.

NAGORNO KARABAKH 15TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak today to extend my congratulations to the people of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, who are celebrating the 15th anniversary of the Karabakh Movement for Independence. On February 20, 1988, the Legislature of Nagorno Karabakh, officially petitioned the then-Soviet Union to reunite with their ethnic compatriots in Armenia. The people

of Nagorno Karabakh struggled bravely and selflessly in the face of tremendous institutionalized violence and oppression orchestrated by succeeding totalitarian governments. Despite years of ethnic cleansing, forced economic discrimination and state-sponsored violence and intimidation, residents of Nagorno Karabakh, 96 percent of whom are Armenian, never strayed in their struggle for independence. It wasn't until the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the cold war that they were to get their wish, but not without cost. Armed conflict engulfed the region in the early 1990s, but a fragile peace has not taken hold.

It is for these reasons that I urge my colleagues to take this historic opportunity, inspired by the anniversary of their most recent struggle to live in freedom and the free and transparent elections they have held since 1996, to support this fledgling democracy. The people of Nagorno Karabakh are to be congratulated for their perseverance and resolve in their struggle for self-determination on this 15th anniversary. I hope that this Congress will continue to assist them in the continued development of their new democracy, which serves as a beacon of hope to oppressed people seeking democracy around the globe.

NATIONAL VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATIONS WEEK

HON. JOHN E. PETERSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to introduce to my colleagues a resolution establishing a National Visiting Nurse Associations Week. Serving communities around the country for over 120 years, congressional recognition and gratitude for these nonprofit home health agencies is long over due. Currently, they are composed of 500 different associations and care for over 4,000,000 patients each year, many of whom are chronically ill and unable to pay medical expenses.

In a country crippled with staggering health care and medical costs, the Visiting Nurse Association continually and successfully works to achieve its mission of cost-effective and compassionate home and community-based health care to individuals regardless of the individuals' condition or ability to pay for services. They are a leading provider of mass immunizations in the Medicare program and constitute over 50 percent of all Medicaid home health admissions. The association relies heavily upon volunteer nurses and reinvests any budget surplus into charity care, adult day care centers, wellness clinics, Meals-on-Wheels, and immunization programs.

This resolution would designate the second full week in February as National Visiting Nurse Associations Week in order to increase public awareness of the charity-based organization. They unquestionably deserve recognition for their noble services and by establishing this resolution Congress would support the continuation of their mission.

I am proud to recognize these invaluable contributions of our VNA's by cosponsoring this legislation.

RECOGNITION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES, CHAPTER 307, ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 307 of St. Joseph, Missouri on this, their 50th Anniversary.

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees is dedicated to protecting the earned retirement benefits of Federal employees, retirees and their survivors. The organization was founded in 1921 by fourteen Federal employees and has grown over the years to more than 400,000 Federal and Postal employees, retirees, spouses and survivors.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Chapter 307 for their accomplishments with the National Association of Retired Federal Employees and in congratulating them on their 50th anniversary.

HONORING THE MOUNT VERNON VOICE, THE MOUNT VERNON-LEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEW BUSINESS OF THE YEAR, 2002

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the Mount Vernon Voice, which has recently been named the 2002 New Business of the Year by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce.

The Voice, founded by Marlene Miller and Steve Hunt, is a weekly newspaper dedicated to providing complete community coverage of the Mount Vernon and Lee Districts and the City of Alexandria. Having celebrated its one-year anniversary in January 2003, the Mount Vernon Voice has already proven to be a good neighbor and an invaluable member of its community.

Being the only newspaper located in the community, it serves and is staffed by residents of the area. Additionally, the Voice is proud to sponsor numerous community events and organizations, including Mount Vernon Community Day, the Mount Vernon Orchestra, Lee District Nights, educational forums on local public schools, the Alexandria Red Cross Waterfront Festival, the Animal Welfare League's Canine games, and many more community functions.

Located in the heart of the 11th District of Virginia, the Mount Vernon Voice has established itself as a vital member of the Northern Virginia community.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I call upon my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Mount Vernon Voice and its staff for their many achievements, and wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

A RESOLUTION TO URGE THE PRESIDENT TO PRESENT A PRESIDENTIAL CITIZENS MEDAL TO FREDERICK DOUGLASS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the President to present posthumously a Presidential Citizens Medal to Frederick Douglass, in recognition of his achievements in civil rights and service to the nation.

Abolitionist, editor, orator, reformer, and civil rights activist, Frederick Douglass was one of the most influential African-American leaders of the 19th century. The fourth of seven children born to a field hand in Talbot County, MD, Frederick Douglass escaped slavery with great adversity to become a forefather in civil and women's rights.

Throughout his extraordinary life, Frederick Douglass gained international prominence for his lecturing and autobiographical writings, in which he detailed the callousness of slavery. However, his notoriety was largely attributed to the founding of the North Star, a weekly newspaper that not only spoke out against slavery and oppression, but also served as a station on the Underground Railroad.

Douglass' civil rights achievements were also highlighted by a successful political career. As a staunch Republican, Douglass served as an advisor to Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. He was appointed as Assistant Secretary of the Commission of Inquiry to Santo Domingo by President Ulysses S. Grant, was appointed U.S. Marshal of the District of Columbia by President Rutherford B. Hayes, and was named Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia in 1881 by President James L. Garfield, all of which were firsts for African Americans.

My Speaker, for these achievements and many others, which are too numerous to name, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and the subsequent letter to the President urging him to posthumously present a Presidential Citizens Medal in honor of Frederick Douglass.

FEBRUARY SCHOOL OF THE MONTH

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have named Meadow Elementary in the Baldwin Union Free School District as School of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for February 2003. Mrs. Joan M. Flatley is the Principal at Meadow School, Ms. Cora Ianuario is Assistant Principal, and Dr. Kathy Weiss is the Superintendent of Schools in the Baldwin Union Free School District. The school has 750 students in grades Kindergarten through 5.

The Meadow Elementary School Community is a close-knit body of parents, teachers, students, and administrators. Their goal is to ensure each child a stable early education

through an enriched curriculum that keeps the children excited, and unique programs that appeal to a wide variety of younger children.

The new Character Education Program and the school's determination to create a caring environment for everyone shows the strong commitment Meadow Elementary has to developing student character. Each month Meadow students and staff focus on different character traits, and are rewarded for efforts to achieving the month's traits. The Program emphasizes traits that students should strive for, such as: responsibility, cooperation, respect, generosity, perseverance, acceptance/tolerance, honesty, compassion, fairness, and self-discipline.

The Meadow School has many wonderful programs designed to ensure each child receives individual attention. The special education program is unique to the school. All students in the district, in grades Kindergarten through 5, requiring special education go to Meadow. Currently, there are 80 students in the program. Also, the English as a Second Language program helps 30 students every day conquer their fears and language barriers.

Long Island students receive a better education thanks to the faculty and teachers of Meadow Elementary School and I am proud to name them school of the month for February.

CONGRATULATING COACH ROBERT CAPELLO ON HIS 800TH CAREER VICTORY

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues the remarkably successful coaching career of Robert Capello, the long-time coach for Edcouch-Elsa High School in my congressional district.

Coach Capello recently celebrated his 800th career victory, making him the only Hispanic high school basketball coach in the Nation with 800 victories. Even more remarkable, Coach Capello boasts a 69 percent victory percentage over his 36-year career at the helm of the Edcouch-Elsa Yellowjackets. His great success over the years is evidenced not only by that career victory milestone but by the many championships his teams have won. The Edcouch-Elsa Basketball Team has been District Champions for 11 of the past 19 years. They have played in the Texas State playoffs in 19 of the past 21 years. They are the first school in the Rio Grande Valley to send four players to the Texas High School Coaches Association South All Star games.

Robert Capello is not only an excellent basketball coach, he has also been an extraordinary role model and mentor to hundreds of boys and girls who have graduated from Edcouch-Elsa High School over the years. He inspires his athletes to excel both on the court and in the classroom, and has encouraged all students at Edcouch-Elsa to reach their fullest potential by pursuing a college education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in congratulating Coach Robert Capello for his 800th career basketball victory, and for his 36 years of inspirational leadership and caring commitment to the students of Edcouch-Elsa High School.

HONORING FRANK MEEKS AS THE MOUNT VERNON-LEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CHAMBER CITIZEN OF THE YEAR, 2002

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Frank Meeks, who has recently been named the Chamber Citizen of the Year by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Meeks earned a degree in political science and English from the University of Southern Mississippi, with the goal of attending law school. In order to help defray the cost of continuing his education, he became a delivery boy for Domino's Pizza in 1979. Within a short amount of time, Mr. Meeks became manager of the store, and decided to stay with Domino's.

In December 1980, Mr. Meeks took 2 years off from Domino's Pizza and served as a congressional aide for Senator TRENT LOTT, then a Member of the House of Representatives. Mr. Meeks continued to earn extra money by assisting Domino's Pizza in opening up new stores in the Virginia area. After 2 years with Mr. LOTT, Mr. Meeks decided to return to Domino's and was awarded the franchise for Northern Virginia and Washington, DC. Mr. Meeks opened his first store in July 1983 in Alexandria, Virginia. Today, Frank Meeks oversees the operation of fifty-nine Domino's Pizza stores in Washington, DC, Maryland, and Northern Virginia. Mr. Meek's franchise, Domino's Pizza Team Washington, continues to be one of the top franchises in Domino's Pizza, Inc.

Under Mr. Meek's leadership, Team Washington has been active in supporting area schools. Team Washington has generously contributed to the post prom and after graduation parties in Fairfax County, Virginia, and Montgomery County, Maryland. In addition, Team Washington has also contributed to the Washington's Children's National Medical Center, Food and Friends, Mount Vernon High School, and numerous other organizations.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, it gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest congratulations to Mr. Frank Meeks. I call upon my colleagues to join me in honoring him for all of his success and dedication to his work and the community.

TRIBUTE TO DELOISE JONES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, in commemoration of Black History Month, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the many accomplishments of distinguished African-Americans in Mississippi's Second Congressional District.

Today I rise to pay tribute to Deloise Jones. Mrs. Jones is a native of Jackson, Mississippi. She earned a bachelor's degree in Economics from Tougaloo College. She then went on to earn a master's degree in Early Childhood Education from Jackson State University.

Mrs. Jones began her career as an economist with the Labor Department in Washington, DC. In 1981, she became an elementary teacher in the Jackson Public School (JPS) District in Jackson, Mississippi, where she has served since. In 1994, she served a 4-year tenure as president of the Jackson Association of Educators.

Mrs. Jones has received numerous awards and recognitions for her commitment and service in the interest of public education and the teaching profession. These acknowledgments include the Silver Apple Award, which she was presented by JPS Board of Directors in 1983. In 1988, she was appointed as a teacher representative to the Paperwork Reduction Task Force by then Governor Ray Mabus. And, most recently was selected as teacher of the year by her colleagues at the elementary school where she currently works.

Mrs. Jones is a valued member of the community and her contributions are greatly appreciated.

INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION WEEK

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, today Representative JOHN PETERSON and I are introducing a bill to establish an annual National Visiting Nurse Association Week during the second week of May in honor of the army of health care heroes who, every day, comfort, care for, and assist our loved ones. Modern society takes for granted the need for nursing as an indispensable component of our public health system, but this was not always the case. The very concept of a visiting nurse can be traced to the pioneering work of Florence Nightingale. She reformed British military hospitals in the Crimean War through an expose in the British press, she professionalized nursing and made it an acceptable profession for educated women, devoted the rest of her life to building on her experiences, setting standards and writing books, until the mission of nursing had gained the respect of the world.

When Henry Wadsworth Longfellow read of the work of Florence Nightingale, he penned a poem, Santa Filomena, that spoke of the deep appreciation owed by all of us to those dedicated to service in the ultimate caring profession. He wrote:

Whene'er a noble deed is wrought,
Whene'er is spoken a noble thought,
Our hearts, in glad surprise,
To higher levels rise.

The tidal wave of deeper souls
Into our inmost being rolls,
And lifts us unawares
Out of all meaner cares.

The Visiting Nurse Associations of today are founded on the principle that the sick, the disabled, and the elderly benefit most from healthcare when it is offered in their own homes. They are non-profit home health agencies that provide cost-effective and compassionate home and community-based health care to individuals, regardless of their condition or ability to pay for services. Through these exceptional organizations, 90,000 clini-

cians dedicate their lives to bringing healthcare into the homes of over 4 million Americans every year. In the face of rising costs and drastic changes in our health care system, visiting nurse associations have continued to deliver high quality health services for over 120 years.

It is time for Congress to recognize the vital services that visiting nurses provide their patients. Moreover, visiting nurses also are an indispensable lifeline for families. The comfort and quality care that visiting nurses provide can help family members cope with the difficulties of a loved one's illness.

I am proud to be introducing this important legislation with my colleague Representative PETERSON and urge my colleagues to join us in supporting National Visiting Nurse Association Week.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY, WORK, AND FAMILY PROMOTION ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 4, the Personal Responsibility, Work, and Family Promotion Act of 2003, and in support of the Democratic substitute amendment.

For twenty years, a complicit agreement regarding welfare existed between conservatives and liberals in this country. Conservatives refused to devote more money to the program, and liberals refused to demand anything of recipients. We lost two generations of Americans to this failed system of dependency.

I am a long-time believer in welfare reform. I worked in the White House and with the Congress to help enact the welfare reform legislation of 1996—and I was proud to be a part of the strong, bipartisan reform that legislation created. I applaud my colleagues in the House on both sides of the aisle who helped to pass what has been a landmark of successful reform. The 1996 reforms broke from the past with a new approach that grounded the welfare system in the values of work and responsibility. It was a bold and daring experiment that worked.

Instead of simply handing needy families a check, we created new opportunities for families on welfare. By providing access to education and training, we helped welfare recipients to get better and more lucrative jobs. Recognizing recipients' need to care for their young children, we helped them to get child care, and allowed mothers of young children modified work requirements. Realizing that many low-paying jobs do not provide health insurance, we instituted transitional medical assistance for families coming off welfare.

Since enactment of the 1996 reforms, enrollment has plunged more than 50 percent. The percentage of welfare recipients who work has increased five-fold over the past decade, and states now spend more on work support than on cash benefits. Thanks in large part to welfare reform, 8 million people left poverty in the 90s, teen pregnancy dropped by more than 20 percent, and child support collections doubled. We are moving in the right direction because we were true to our common values.

The most important thing we've accomplished with welfare reform has been to connect a generation of children with the culture of work. Most of us grew up watching our parents go to work. We internalized the value of work and now are passing these values onto our own children. Today, millions of children who would otherwise have grown up in a home where work was alien, now are being raised in a home where they are learning the routine of work.

In my state of Illinois, caseloads dropped 74.9 percent between 1996 and 2001, and, despite the recession, continued to fall an additional 23.7 percent in 2002. Many credit our strong success in caseload reduction to the state's innovative use of the flexibility in the original legislation, allowing Illinois to provide appropriate support for families making the transition from welfare to work. The proposed reauthorization will have a particularly disastrous effect on states like Illinois that have taken advantage of family support provisions to make notable progress. By removing the support system that has allowed many to get off and stay off welfare, this legislation is likely to create major setbacks in the progress of reform.

The Democratic substitute amendment builds on the success of the 1996 reforms. It retains the strong work incentives that not only help individuals go back to work, but provide them with greater job security by helping them become better educated, and train for better jobs. It recognizes the importance of giving mothers with young children the flexibility to take care of their children. It eliminates the current exclusion of legal immigrants from the system.

The Republican legislation represents a return to the failed ideologies of the past. It is not realistic to count the number of new hours of work mandated by this bill, and call reform a success. In voting for this legislation, you are voting against education and training to help current welfare recipients get out of dead-end jobs. You are voting for standards that will create hardships for working mothers, and add thousands to waiting lists for child care. You are voting to continue to exclude legal immigrants from participating in a program that would help them to contribute to this country rather than being simply a drain on the system.

In fact, I find the title of this legislation ironic: The Personal Responsibility, Work, and Family Promotion Act in fact stifles personal responsibility, discourages work, and creates hardship for families. Inherent in the concept of personal responsibility is making the choice to work towards self-improvement. By mandating more hours of work while limiting the training and education options are available to workers, this bill removes all incentive for personal responsibility.

Promoting work is not as simple as increasing work hours. There are likely to be countless individuals who, because they do not have the time, health, or child care resources to work forty hours each week, or simply cannot find a job where they are permitted to work forty hours, will choose instead not to work at all. If this legislation aims to promote work, it must do so by making work more realistic for workers and their families, not by imposing mandates that make working more difficult.

Lastly, the legislation creates untold hardship for families. By increasing mandated work

hours, while eliminating the current accommodation for women with young children, the bill will vastly increase the need for child care, without providing resources to the states to pay for it. Beyond this, the fact that the legislation limits opportunities for education and vocational training will keep many individuals in dead-end, low-paying jobs, with limited possibility to create better opportunities for their families.

Creating bipartisan compromise on welfare reform is never easy. It took us three tries to find a bill that worked in 1996. However, in this time of economic hardship for our nation, and our states in particular, it is even more essential that the Congress works in a bipartisan fashion to forge compromise on a welfare reform reauthorization that works. Welfare reform succeeded in 1996 when we stopped making it a political issue, and devoted our selves to passing meaningful legislation.

I have no illusions about what is going to happen today. However, I am disappointed that this Congress has chosen to take an enormous step backwards, prioritizing politics over pragmatism on an issue on which we have allowed good principles to rule in the past. I know that there are good people on both sides of the aisle, with good values, who have seen reforms we created improve the lives of people back home. To those in this Congress with whom I worked in 1996, let us not walk away from that we have accomplished. We have a mutual obligation not to let bad politics undo our good work.

I am confident that there will be no shortage of politics and partisan fights this session—about their tax cut, the deficit, Medicare reform, prescription drugs. To give up on proven success on welfare reform to engage in another unnecessary partisan fight is wrong.

Welfare reform is about demanding responsibility, encouraging work, and making work pay. Over the past six years, we as a nation—and millions of individuals—have benefited from our willingness to move beyond the old politics. This legislation represents a return to the failed politics and policies of the past. It is not compassionate nor is it conservative. It does a disservice to millions of families who have moved from welfare to work, and to the millions still struggling to do so. And it does wrong by our value as Americans.

HONORING RENT-ALL CENTER,
THE MOUNT VERNON-LEE CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE SMALL BUSINESS
OF THE YEAR

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Rent-All Center which was named the 2002 Small Business of the Year by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce.

Located in the heart of the 11th District of Virginia, the Rent-All Center was opened by Freeman and Lois Jones in 1970. It was created to serve the Mt. Vernon community as a source for home improvement and light contracting equipment. Today, the company has grown from a local tool rental shop into a full service party rental company, servicing the entire metro Washington, DC, area.

The Rent-All Center can best be described as a family-operated business. While currently managed by Douglas Jones and Judith Beyer, the children of Freeman and Lois Jones, on any given day three generations of family members can be found working there.

In addition to its outstanding business ethic, the Rent-All Center has distinguished itself through its commitment to serving the local community through participation in numerous community organizations, such as the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation. Rent-All Center also supports youth sports, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Woodlawn Little League.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I call upon my colleagues to join me in congratulating Douglas Jones, Judith Beyer, and all those associated with the Rent-All Center for their many achievements, and wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES OF
THE HOUSE TO THE FAMILIES
OF THE CREW OF THE SPACE
SHUTTLE "COLUMBIA"

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. McHUGH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with a heavy heart, joining with the rest of the Nation in sorrow for the loss of the *Columbia* Shuttle and its seven heroic crew members. This tragedy, felt so deeply by all Americans, holds particular poignancy throughout my district. Both Payload Commander Michael Anderson and Pilot William McCool leave friends and family behind in New York's North Country.

Michael Anderson was born along the Canadian border in Plattsburgh, NY, in 1959, as his father served at the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base. Less than 40 years later he would return as an Air Force officer himself, working to the rank of lieutenant colonel before joining the NASA astronaut program in 1995. Today, many men and women in Plattsburgh remember Michael fondly. Ricky Jenkins, a 71-year-old Vietnam War veteran who worked with Michael at the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base, said in the local newspaper soon after the shuttle's loss "I was so very proud of him for doing what he was doing. He was a role model . . . I will never forget Michael." Hours after President Bush helped the astronauts' families celebrate their loved ones at a national service in Houston several weeks ago, the Plattsburgh community celebrated Michael's life in particular with their own candlelight vigil. A youth choir, Boy Scouts honor guard and presentation by Gov. George Pataki marked the celebration. Plattsburgh Mayor Dan Stewart spoke for the community earlier in the day. I share their sentiments here: "This is our opportunity as the birthplace of a national hero to send our condolences. It's for them to know we are with heavy hearts in Plattsburgh."

Less than 200 miles west of Plattsburgh, at the Army's Fort Drum base in Watertown, Warrant Officer Shawn McCool grieves for his brother, *Columbia* Pilot William McCool. Shawn McCool said his brother was one of his

favorite people in the world, one of his greatest heroes. To the McCool family, and the families of all the astronauts we lost, I pledge that their loved ones' deaths are not in vain. Their enthusiasm and passion to explore the skies beyond us in the interest of mankind will always hold our deepest gratitude. And the space program their husbands, wives, mothers, fathers, sons and daughters died for will live on in their honor.

As we begin to understand the circumstances surrounding *Columbia's* loss that Saturday morning over Texas, we must remember what NASA embodies. It was founded in 1958 to explore a new frontier, discover new heights and wonders in science. It is responsible for cutting-edge aeronautics research in a aerodynamics, wind shear, wind tunnels, flight testing and computer simulations. It has performed invaluable research on ways to dampen the effect of shock waves on transonic aircraft. It has also launched a number of significant scientific probes that have explored the moon, the planets and other areas of our solar system. NASA has been responsible for the Hubble Space Telescope and other revolutionary space science spacecraft that enabled scientists to make a number of significant astronomical discoveries in our universe.

I truly believe the lives the men and women of *Columbia* led, like the lives of those astronauts who went before them, exemplify the commitment that lies behind our nation's space program. In an e-mail transmission hours before the *Columbia* crew attempted to return home, Michael Anderson illustrated their passion with these words: "It's kind of with mixed emotions that we get ready to come home. But we have enough fond memories to last us a lifetime."

As the House Science Committee, led by my colleague and New York neighbor, SHERWOOD BOEHLERT, initiates its investigation, Congress pledges to focus on which policies may have contributed to this tragedy. We owe nothing less to those we now mourn, Michael Anderson, William McCool, Rick Husband, Laurel Clark, Kalphana Chawla, David Brown, and Illan Ramon.

HONORING ROSA AND JACK
KELLEY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rosa and Jack Kelley's contributions to the African American Historical and Cultural Museum of California's San Joaquin Valley. On Saturday, February 15, the retirement of Jack Kelley, the memory of his wife Rosa, and the beginning of the Kelley Endowment Fund for the African American Museum was celebrated in Fresno, California.

Jack Kelley has been an active member in the community throughout his life. Mr. Kelley served his country bravely in World War II. Jack continued his brave and honorable service to America as one of the first African American policemen for the Fresno Police Department, and later as the first African American to be promoted to Sergeant within the Department. Showing his range of diversity,

Jack was drafted as a professional football player after graduating from Fresno State University.

The late Rosa Kelley served the public as a Licensed Vocational Nurse and elementary school teacher. She was an active member in her church and many other civic activities in the community. She was known as a devoted wife, mother, aunt, grandmother, and great-grandmother whose love, kindness, and encouragement touched the lives of many people throughout her life and allowed the Museum to be at the status it is today.

Mr. Kelley began his 12-year dream of creating an African American Historical museum of the pioneers of the San Joaquin Valley out of the trunk of his car. His perseverance to display the photos and artifacts from early African American pioneers to the public has led to his vision becoming a reality.

The African American Historical & Cultural Museum has promoted an understanding, appreciation, and awareness of African Americans historically and culturally throughout the San Joaquin Valley who have been pioneers and role models in their community. The Museum serves as a permanent home to remember the work of African Americans of the Valley.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Jack and Rosa Kelley for their outreach in the community and their dedication to the African American Historical and Cultural Museum. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Jack Kelley and the Museum many more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO KATIE AND JIM
KEEGAN

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Katie and Jim Keegan, Catholic Charities 2003 recipients of the Monsignor Thomas J. Reese award.

The award is named for the late Monsignor Thomas J. Reese, the long-time Director of Catholic Social Services (now Catholic Charities), for his commitment to serving those in need throughout our community. As a tribute to Monsignor Reese, each year an honoree is selected who is a leader in his/her field and in the community and who possesses outstanding integrity worth emulating. This year Catholic Charities has selected the Keegans in recognition of their service to others in the community both as individuals and together.

I rise today to praise Katie and Jim Keegan for their contributions to the State of Delaware and its citizens through years of helping the community and serving as advocates for community service in the State.

In addition to graduating from Chestnut Hill College and raising five children, Katie Keegan has been a tireless advocate for the young people and those less fortunate. Katie had demonstrated her faith by serving in various positions, including: Youth Encounter Leader, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) teacher and Board member of the Bayard House, a facility that assists single young women as they prepare for motherhood. Over the years, Katie Keegan has also served as a

committee member for the TEE-Off for Kids Golf Tournament benefiting Catholic Charities. She is in her own right a dedicated leader in the community, as she has touched the lives of so many in Delaware.

Jim Keegan is a graduate of Notre Dame. Following graduation, Jim spent two years in the U.S. Navy prior to joining the DuPont Company. In addition to his dedication at DuPont, Jim has been active and held leadership positions in a wide variety of church and educational efforts ranging from Chairman of the Diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal and membership on the leadership team for Bringing the Vision to Life Diocesan Campaign to various volunteer commitments in surrounding schools and parish councils.

On Thursday, February 20, 2003, at 6 p.m., Catholic Charities Inc. of the Diocese of Wilmington honored Katie and Jim Keegan at its Annual Tribute Dinner in Wilmington, Delaware.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Katie and Jim Keegan for the time they spend giving back to the community in Delaware. They are fine examples of the generosity and compassion that is common in the Catholic faith and American spirit. Their selflessness, sacrifice of time and commitment to service, has already given them a permanent place in Delaware's history.

THE MONTGOMERY GI BILL
ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to correct an unfair restriction that is preventing some of our career military service members from using the Montgomery GI Bill.

Education assistance has been a cornerstone of military benefits for over 50 years. Congress recognized that military service often prevented young people from attending school and attaining higher levels of education. In 1944, Congress passed the original education bill for service members, the Serviceman's Readjustment Act. This World War II era legislation provided billions of dollars in education and training incentives for veterans and active duty personnel. The nation has reaped many times that amount in return investment from a well-trained work force and a more productive society.

Building on the success of the original GI Bill, Congress has passed several other pieces of legislation expanding veterans' educational benefits. The Veterans' Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) was enacted in 1976 as a recruitment and retention tool for the post-Vietnam era. This was the first program requiring payment contributions from military personnel while they were on active duty and was available to people who entered active duty between December 31, 1976 and July 1, 1985.

In 1984, Congress passed the All volunteer Force Educational Assistance program; more commonly call the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB). This expanded program provided better benefits that offered under VEAP and last year Congress passed legislation to boost MGIB by a record 46 percent over two years. With the

enactment of this legislation, an estimated 409,000 veterans and service members will receive assistance under MGIB for education and training in 2003.

In 1996, Congress passed Public Law 104-275, allowing VEAP participants to transfer their education accounts to MGIB and 41,041 veterans and servicepersons took advantage of the opportunity. The opportunity to convert to MGIB is very important because the benefits available are much greater. Unfortunately, those individuals who were on active duty before 1985 and did not participate in VEAP were not eligible to sign-up for MGIB, leaving a gap in available coverage for certain career military personnel. Congress has voted several times in the last decade to allow VEAP participants opportunities to transfer to MGIB, but there has not been an opportunity for those who did not have VEAP accounts to sign up for the new program, excluding them from taking advantage of great educational benefits.

This unjust situation can easily be remedied. My legislation provides a one-year open enrollment period for individuals falling into the gap to attain the benefits that they deserve. This is a matter of equity. We cannot neglect our career military personnel; they have served bravely and honorably for decades and their experiences are crucial to the security of our nation. Now is the opportunity to ensure that they are provided for and have the same benefits that are available to other members of the Armed Forces.

HONORING THE NATIONAL BASS
GUIDE SERVICE AS THE MOUNT
VERNON-LEE CHAMBER OF COM-
MERCE HOME-BASED BUSINESS
OF THE YEAR, 2002

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate National Bass Guide Service on their recognition by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce as the Home-Based Business of 2002.

Founded by Steve Chaconas, National Bass Guide Service is a fishing charter operation on the Potomac River that specializes in largemouth bass. Since its foundation two years ago, National Bass Guide Service has tripled the number of fishing charters it provides. In addition, Mr. Chaconas has expanded into outdoor writing for four publications, giving more exposure to the sport of fishing.

In addition to the numerous services they provide along the Potomac River, National Bass Guide Service is dedicated to contributing to the community. Mr. Chaconas has served as chairman and Master of Ceremonies for the St. Jude Children's Hospital Annual Bass Fishing Tournament, raising nearly \$100,000 for the hospital. National Bass Guide Service has also donated fishing trips to the Hollin Hall Senior Center, the Recreation Boating and Fishing Foundation, as well as to churches and organizations for fundraising auctions.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, it is an honor to extend my warm congratulations to National

Bass Guide Service for all of their achievements. The recognition by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce is well deserved. I call upon my colleagues to join me in wishing the National Bass Guide Service future success.

TRIBUTE TO THE 144TH MILITARY
POLICE COMPANY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, Congressman DAVE CAMP and I rise today to honor the service of the men and women of the 144th Military Police Company from Owosso, MI, who spent the past year defending the Pentagon.

The 144th has a proud history of service in time of need. In 1990–91, the unit was activated and sent to Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, where it operated a holding camp for Iraqi prisoners of war. Numerous members of the unit have volunteered to serve at Michigan airports, border crossings, the Bioport facility in Lansing.

In the aftermath of September 11, 2001, the effort of these soldiers has kept safe the command center for America's fighting men and women, and the heart of our national defense operations. These soldiers have sacrificed much for their country, putting their lives on hold to serve America.

Today, as our Nation engages in a war on terrorism, these men and women are role models for their fellow citizens as they stand in defense of our nation and the free world. Their devotion and commitment to their country and to the state of Michigan have earned them great respect.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in extending our gratitude to the fine men and women of the 144th Military Police Company. We are honored to recognize their service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED
STATES LIFE-SAVING SERVICE
HERITAGE ACT

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the United States Life-Saving Service Heritage Act, legislation to celebrate one of the most inspiring periods in America's maritime history. This legislation would establish a comprehensive program to inventory, evaluate, document, and assist efforts to restore and preserve surviving historic lifesaving stations. I am pleased that my Jersey Shore colleague Representative FRANK LOBIONDO has joined me in this effort.

The history of lifesaving in the United States dates back to 1785, when the Massachusetts Humane Society began building huts along the Massachusetts coast to aid shipwreck victims. These huts were later fitted with surfboats, beach-carts, and other lifesaving equipment. Beginning in 1847, the Federal government

recognized the importance and necessity of lifesaving efforts when Congress provided a series of appropriations to establish lifesaving stations equipped to render assistance to shipwrecked mariners and their passengers. These stations were first established along the Atlantic coast with the assistance of Representative William Newell, who during the 31st and 39th Congresses represented some of the same areas of New Jersey that I represent today. Representative Newell's efforts contributed to the establishment of a network of lifesaving stations along the Jersey Shore from Sandy Hook to Cape May. In 1871, Congress approved the first appropriation for the Federal government to employ crews of lifesavers. On June 18, 1878, the "Act to Organize the Life-Saving Service" was enacted. In 1915 the Life-Saving Service merged with the Revenue Cutter Service to form the Coast Guard. At that time, there were over 275 lifesaving stations to aid shipwreck victims on the Atlantic, Pacific, Gulf, and Great Lakes coasts.

The volunteer and professional lifesaving personnel who staffed these stations risked their lives to prevent shipwreck casualties. Winslow Homer immortalized these great heroes of the American coast in his painting *The Life Line*. Walt Whitman celebrated their inspiring actions in the following excerpt of his poem *Patrolling Barnegat*:

Through cutting swirl and spray watchful
and firm advancing,

(That in the distance! Is that a wreck? Is the
red signal flaring?)

Slush and sand of the beach tireless till day-
light wending,

Steadily, slowly, through hoarse roar never
remitting,

Along the midnight edge by those milk-
white combs careering,

A group of dim, weird forms, struggling, the
night confronting,

That savage trinity warily watching.

An outstanding example of this period survives today in my district. The historic Monmouth Beach lifesaving station, established in 1895, is a Duluth style station designed by the architect George Tolman. On one occasion, every member of the station's crew was awarded a gold lifesaving medal for rescuing victims of two shipwrecks on the same evening. This historic structure had been slated for demolition to make way for a new parking lot for beachgoers. Fortunately, the entire community came together to save this important structure but work still needs to be done to preserve the station's history and the inspiring stories of those who served there.

It is not certain exactly how many stations like the one in Monmouth Beach remain. Many surviving historic lifesaving stations are of rare architectural significance, but harsh coastal environments threaten them, rapid economic development in the coastal zone, neglect, and lack of resources for their preservation. The heroic actions of America's lifesavers deserve greater recognition, and their contributions to America's maritime and architectural history should be celebrated.

That is why I have proposed the United States Life-Saving Service Heritage Act. This legislation would provide the resources necessary to inventory, document, and evaluate surviving lifesaving stations. It would also provide grant funding to assist efforts to protect and preserve these maritime treasures.

The United States Life-Saving Service Heritage Act would authorize the National Park

Service, through its National Maritime Initiative, to inventory, document, and evaluate surviving historic lifesaving stations. These activities would be conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Life-Saving Service Heritage Association, a Massachusetts based nonprofit educational organization that works to protect and preserve America's lifesaving heritage. This inventory, documentation, and evaluation would be similar in nature to a study completed by the Park Service in 1994, on historic light-houses. Under this legislation, the Park Service would serve as a clearinghouse of information on lifesaving station preservation efforts, which would greatly assist public and private efforts to protect these historic structures and the maritime heritage that they embody.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to celebrate one of the most heroic and inspiring periods in America's maritime history.

HONORING THE RESPONSIBLE SO-
CIAL INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
AT IOWA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite the attention of my colleagues to a remarkable program at Iowa Wesleyan College, a 161-year-old, Methodist-affiliated liberal arts college in Mr. Pleasant, IA.

In conjunction with National Volunteer Month, this week the college is celebrating the achievement of 1 million hours of service to society by its graduates through participation in its Responsible Social Involvement (RSI) program.

In the 35 years since its inception, RSI—with its requirement of a minimum of 160 hours of work with a nonprofit organization, as well as the keeping of a journal, the writing of an essay and the making of an oral presentation—has become a national paradigm for public service.

More than simply a requirement that must be met for graduation, participation in RSI has proven a life-transforming experience for thousands of Iowa Wesleyan students.

In 1739, John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist church, confided to his journal that "I look upon the world as my parish." The young men and women Iowa Wesleyan sends from its campus through RSI discover a world in which too often the so-called "me-generation" succumbs to the temptation to decouple freedom from responsibility.

Today it is tempting to seek freedom by abjuring personal responsibility for addressing the needs of those less well off in our communities. This renunciation of individual accountability is too easily justified by the assumption that the role of meeting societal needs is exclusively that of impersonal bureaucracies. Participants in RSI come to understand that a moral society demands that individuals not duck responsibility for improving the lot of others, that personal fulfillment comes through action rooted, not in "I," but "we."

The Responsible Social Involvement program at Iowa Wesleyan appropriately epitomizes John Wesley's Rule:

Do all the good you can,

By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can

I am sure my colleagues will join me in congratulating the faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends of Iowa Wesleyan College on reaching the milestone of providing one million hours of service through RSI. They will also want to join me in wishing them Godspeed as they embark on their second million.

ON THE RECOGNITION OF THE
SERVICE OF MR. JOHN PORTER

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Porter who bravely served as a private in the Maryland Militia during the War of 1812 and was killed in the line of duty.

The War of 1812 should be remembered and revered for its final and permanent confirmation of American Independence.

Mr. Porter served in the Maryland Militia as a member of the 33rd Regiment and served under Captain Benjamin Massey in the Battle of Bladensburg, also known as "the battle to protect the heart of America." The Maryland Militia served at a moment's notice with great enthusiasm, demonstrating the honor and dignity with which they believed came from defending their country and serving this patriotic duty.

The British had three reasons for attacking the Chesapeake Region during the Battle of Bladensburg: to burn Washington, D.C. in order to avenge America's burning of York in Canada; to destroy Baltimore to prevent future naval attacks; and to draw American troops away from the Canadian front. Despite these interests, the Maryland Militia was able to aid their country by defending both Washington and Baltimore and allowed troops to remain on the Canadian front.

John Porter fought valiantly during this battle, and was one of many members of the Maryland Militia who gave their lives in defense of their country.

Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the sacrifice and service of Mr. Porter to both the state of Maryland and to our great nation.

REORGANIZING JESSICA LITTLE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jessica Little, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, Troop 1230, and in earning the most prestigious honor of the Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement attainable in Girl Scouting. To earn the Gold Award, a Scout must complete

five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. The requirements include: (1) Earning four interest project patches, each of which requires seven activities that center on skill building, technology, service projects, and career exploration; (2) earning the Career Exploration Pin, which involves researching careers, writing resumes, and planning a career fair or trip; (3) earning the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, which requires a minimum of 30 hours of work using leadership skills; (4) designing a self-development plan that requires assessment of ability to interact with others and prioritize values, participation for a minimum of 15 hours in a community service project, and development of a plan to promote Girl Scouting; and (5) spending a minimum of 50 hours planning and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project that has a positive lasting impact on the community.

For her Gold Award Project, Jessica cleaned up and organized a Casa House.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jessica Little for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

HONORING MR. RICHARD P'POOL

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Richard P'Pool of Princeton, Kentucky for his hard work and dedication on behalf of our nation's veterans.

Mr. P'Pool has spent countless hours and resources documenting and recognizing veterans who have been interred without proper ceremony or marker. When discovering a grave without a proper marker, Mr. P'Pool begins to research the veteran. It is necessary to fully document the service member's military career so that the Department of Veterans Affairs can provide a military marker for the grave. Mr. P'Pool helped apply for and received over 300 markers from the Department of Veterans Affairs at his own expense. This process requires hours of tedious and detailed research because the documentation required, including the muster rolls and the extracts from State files or land warrants, is not often not readily available.

Whenever possible, Mr. P'Pool organizes a memorial ceremony to honor the veteran with the assistance of re-enactment soldiers from the 5th Tennessee Infantry Regiment, members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. They have memorialized soldiers of the Civil War, Korean War and World War II.

Mr. P'Pool served our country in the United States Army. He worked at the White House Communications Agency under Presidents Nixon, Ford and Carter from 1973 until 1977, and he is currently employed as a millwright in Calvert City, Kentucky in my Congressional District. He is a member of the Caldwell County Historical Society, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the Kentucky Historical Society, the Kentucky Genealogical Society and the Friends of the National Park at Gettysburg. He

is assisting in making application for military monuments to be certified under the Kentucky Military Heritage Act.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call attention to the selfless acts of Richard P'Pool. I extend my thanks to him for all his efforts on behalf of so many deserving veterans, and I am honored to bring his accomplishments to the attention of this House.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DONALD S. POWERS
AND MAYOR ROBERT
PASTRICK

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and enthusiasm that I wish to commend two distinguished members of the Northwest Indiana community for their dedicated service and compassion for their fellow citizens. St. Catherine Hospital honored Mr. Donald S. Powers and Mayor Robert Pastrick with the Pillar of the Community Award on Saturday, February 22, 2003 for their outstanding service on behalf of the hospital and the surrounding community.

Donald Powers has demonstrated tremendous vision and leadership in his on-going relationship with Community Health Care System and its affiliates, Community Hospital, St. Catherine Hospital, and St. Mary Medical Center. As President of the Board, Mr. Powers oversaw the creation and construction of Community Hospital, and assisted the staff and administration in developing the first freestanding hospital in Lake County that is ranked in the top two percent of hospitals surveyed nationally for standard of care.

Mr. Power's planning and foresight with respect to the hospital's investment program led to the construction of the Center for Visual and Performing Arts in Munster, Indiana. This center has served as a cultural epicenter, as it is the home for the Northwest Indiana Symphony Society and the Northern Indiana Arts Association.

Mr. Powers has donated much of his time and expertise to his community. He has served on many boards, including the American Red Cross, Calumet Council of Boy Scouts, and the YMCA. Additionally, Mr. Powers was appointed to the Board of Trustees of Purdue University by former Governor Otis Bowen, and was elected President of the Board in 1981.

Mayor Robert Pastrick has been a fixture of the East Chicago community since his election to the City Council in 1955. He has served the citizens of East Chicago as their mayor since 1973. During that time, he has shown a commitment to ensuring effective health care for his constituents by initiating a joint venture between the City of East Chicago and St. Catherine Hospital. Through this program, East Chicago residents have an opportunity to obtain affordable, quality health care for themselves and their children.

Mayor Pastrick has also shown a commitment to his community through his volunteer work, serving on the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns, the United States Conference of Mayors, the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission, and the Northwest Indiana Forum Foundation. Through his

service in these organizations, Mayor Pastrick has worked to improve the lives of the residents of East Chicago, as well as the lives of all Northwest Indiana residents.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Donald S. Powers and Mayor Robert Pastrick as they receive the Pillar of the Community Award for their work on behalf of St. Catherine Hospital. Through their dedication and hard work, the citizens of Northwest Indiana have access to the best medical facilities and services possible. I am proud to represent them in Congress.

RECOGNIZING KIMBERLY MARLIN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kimberly Marlin, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, and in earning the most prestigious honor of the Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement attainable in girl scouting. To earn the Gold Award, a scout must complete five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. The requirements include: (1) earning four interest project patches, each of which requires seven activities that center on skill building, technology, service projects, and career exploration, (2) earning the career exploration pin, which involves researching careers, writing resumes, and planning a career fair or trip, (3) earning the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, which requires a minimum of 30 hours of work using leadership skills, (4) designing a self-development plan that requires assessment of ability to interact with others and prioritize values, participation for a minimum of 15 hours in a community service project, and development of a plan to promote girl scouting, and (5) spending a minimum of 50 hours planning and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award Project that has a positive lasting impact on the community.

Fro her Gold Award Project, Kimberly organized a lending library at Colbern Road Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kimberly Marlin for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of American and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

FOR THE LOVE OF TEACHING—A TRIBUTE TO REMARKABLE DORIS DUNLAP DARDEN

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Doris Dunlap Darden, an educator who has devoted 50 years of service to the St. Louis Public School District. She has dedi-

cated her life to enabling children to attain quality education and providing opportunities that help students realize their abilities and achieve their highest goals.

She began her commendable teaching career in 1953 and has worked diligently to level the educational playing field for at-risk youth in low-income neighborhoods throughout the city of St. Louis. Darden has encouraged hundreds of children by setting high expectations and implementing programs for students to gain leadership and communications skills necessary to succeed in life. She has been committed to reaching both the students and their parents with her educational outreach. Darden impressively took the initiative to create "Home, School and Community," a program which introduced students to local and national newsmakers and celebrities. This innovative program allows famous guest speakers to encourage students to achieve academic excellence, while their parents attended informative workshops and seminars.

Darden solidly believes that all children deserve a high quality education regardless of their socioeconomic status. As a tutor, early in her career, she took note of the way wealthy parents trained their children and introduced those same learning techniques to inner city students. Darden found that her efforts helped raise both the productivity level and esteem of children who would otherwise might have been cast off by society.

In addition to her unwavering commitment to teaching, Darden has selflessly allotted time for community service. She had dedicated numerous hours to working with the Colored Women's Association, National Association of University Women, Tot's N' Teens, various city-wide committees and Leadership for Teachers.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great privilege that I recognize Doris Dunlap Darden to today before Congress. This extraordinary woman strongly believes that every child has the capacity to learn and deserves a chance to express that capacity through life goals. In 50 years, Darden has influentially touched the lives of thousands of young people in classrooms and throughout the St. Louis community. She has a stellar record of demonstrating compassion in the classroom. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring a treasured member of the St. Louis community, Doris Dunlap Darden.

HONORING MR. LARRY WALSTON

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Larry Walston of Hopkinsville, KY, for his hard work and dedication on behalf of our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Walston has worked tirelessly to document the service of veterans who were interred without proper ceremony or marker. In conjunction with officials from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, he has obtained the military service records of nearly 300 civil war veterans buried in Riverside Cemetery in Hopkinsville. These soldiers were interred without stones. The documentation he helped collect was used to order individual markers from the

Department of Veterans Affairs. With the assistance of member of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans and others, these markers were then placed in the cemetery.

Mr. Walston served our country as a member of the United States Navy and a veterans of the Vietnam War. He is a professor at Hopkinsville Community College and a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Military Order of the Stars and Bars, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and many other community service organizations. He is assisting in making application for military monuments to be certified under the Kentucky Military Heritage Act.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent Larry Walston in my district. I extend my thanks to him for all efforts on behalf of so many deserving veterans, and I am proud to bring his accomplishments to the attention of this House.

TRIBUTE TO THE CP FEDERAL CREDIT UNION OF JACKSON, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michigan's Federal Credit Unions for their efforts to improve financial services for their members. I would like to especially commend CP Federal Credit Union for their efforts to improve literacy among young people in Jackson, MI.

Today they will receive the 2002 National Desjardins Youth Financial Education Award for their good work. The award is named for the founder of the North American credit union movement, a man who promoted the idea of educating youth and providing them with in-school savings accounts.

For the last 10 years the CP Federal Credit Union, under the leadership of President and CEO John Crist, put Desjardins' words into action and worked with schools throughout Jackson County to help our youth understand how to spend, save, and budget money. Each week presenters travel to area schools to teach students from Kindergarten to High School about money. In addition to their informative and entertaining presentations they also connect schools with local business people who talk to the students about finances.

Their education did not stop there. The CP Federal Credit Union also operates 31 student-run credit unions. Students have an opportunity to volunteer and learn to post transactions and balance a cash drawer. Currently, 320 student volunteers participate in the program. In addition, the program employs five youth representatives who give presentations and meet with teachers and principals to discuss youth financial literacy. Thanks to their efforts 31 schools will include personal finance as part of their curriculums next year.

Finally, the CP Federal Credit Union offers the "Great Expectations" savings account for students. They encourage students to save for college, their first car, or their first house. Students are required to make a deposit of at least \$10 per month into their savings account to be eligible for savings incentives such as cash bonuses or loan discounts. Rather than

just educate students about saving money, the CP Federal Credit Union takes it a step further and provides students the means to do so.

The impact of this program on the lives of young people in Jackson is immeasurable. More schools have committed to teaching personal finance in their classrooms than ever before; 674 presentations were given during the 2001–2002 school year and 15,000 students were reached. Due to the efforts of these good people and others around the state, Michigan rates No. 1 out of all the States where credit unions are working with youth. Michigan also tops the list in the number of presentations given nearly half of which were given by the CP Federal Credit Union.

I commend John Crist and all the employees of the CP Federal Credit Union for their commitment to youth and their efforts to prepare our students for the future. I hope that you will all join me in congratulating them for earning the 2002 National Desjardins Youth Financial Education Award.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS.
HUTCHINS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Winnie Hollis Hutchins and John Lee Hutchins on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Married on March 18, 1953 in Newark, New Jersey, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins have made New Jersey their home. During their marriage they have striven to promote strong ideals of family, education, and community service to their five daughters, seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Through both their church and independent community activism, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins have devoted time to strengthening our community and to enriching the lives of all of those with whom they have come into contact. As they gather on March 14, 2003, to celebrate this wonderful occasion with family and friends, they set an example to those around them to the wonderful gifts that life has to offer.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives join me today as I congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins on this joyous occasion and wish them health and happiness as they continue their journey together.

RECOGNIZING ELIZABETH RAINE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Elizabeth Raine, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, Troop 1444, and in earning the most prestigious honor of the Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement attainable in Girl Scouting. To

earn the Gold Award, a Scout must complete five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. The requirements include: (1) Earning four interest project patches, each of which requires seven activities that center on skill building, technology, service projects, and career exploration; (2) earning the Career Exploration Pin, which involves researching careers, writing resumes, and planning a career fair or trip; (3) earning the senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, which requires a minimum of 30 hours of work using leadership skills; (4) designing a self-development plan that requires assessment of ability to interact with others and prioritize values, participation for a minimum of 15 hours in a community service project, and development of a plan to promote girl scouting; and (5) spending a minimum of 50 hours planning and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project that has a positive lasting impact on the community.

For her Gold Award project, Elizabeth taught science classes to younger children.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Elizabeth Raine for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

TRIBUTE TO TOM HIGGINS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sincerity and enthusiasm that I wish to congratulate a distinguished member of the First Congressional District of Indiana. Mr. Tom Higgins has been a fixture of the Northwest Indiana community since his radio career began in 1955. The Communicators of Northwest Indiana will deservedly honor him on Thursday, February 20, 2003 as a salute to his dedicated service, and to congratulate him on his retirement. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Scholarship Fund of the Communicators of Northwest Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, Tom Higgins carried a passion for broadcasting throughout his educational career at Indiana University, where he earned a degree in Radio Journalism in 1955. During this time in Bloomington, Tom worked at WFIU as a news and scriptwriter, on-air personality, and news director. He also found an outlet for his talents at WTTS, where he hosted a weekly program. It was at Indiana University where Tom began to pursue his interest in radio and television journalism, and he was able to hone and perfect his talents while at this prestigious university.

After graduating from Indiana University, Tom began his broadcasting career at WLOI radio station in LaPorte, Indiana. After a tour in the military, he returned to Northwest Indiana in 1957 and began working at WWCA in Gary. Tom not only blessed the citizens of Gary with his talents, but he also worked part time at WAKE in Valparaiso, Indiana, eventually calling football games for Valparaiso University. He later returned full time to WWCA, where he used his talents in various positions, including announcer, air personality, producer, and station manager, until July 1983. During

his tenure at WWCA, Tom developed a four station network to expand an existing live radio show named "Third Tuesday", which aired with a live audience, orchestra, and notable guests, for two years.

Mr. Speaker, station managers in Northwest Indiana recognized the talent that Tom possessed for broadcasting in radio and, because of this strong background, provided him an opportunity to pursue a television career in 1967. He served as the play-by-play announcer for the regional telecast of the Indiana State High School Basketball Tourney for six years. During his work for the Senior Little League World Series, Tom was given the opportunity to broadcast games that were featured in Delaware, California, Aruba, and Taiwan, as well as locally. He also worked as the play-by-play announcer for the Indiana All-Star football game in 1982.

In search of a new challenge, Tom joined the staff at Indiana University Northwest in Gary as the Director of Community Relations and development in 1984. He was eventually named the Director of Alumni Relations, a position he successfully held for sixteen years. During that time, Tom was quickly asked to return to the broadcasting business. He worked part time at WWJY-FM in Crown Point, and later tackled the additional responsibility of co-anchor of a new television news hour at WYIN. Tom recalls an extensive period of time where he would work the morning shift at WWJY, direct the Alumni Affairs office during the workday, and co-host the Indiana Nightly Report each day. It is this work ethic and dedication on which the people of Northwest Indiana pride themselves, and it allowed Tom to achieve the success that he has enjoyed.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Mr. Tom Higgins for an outstanding career, not only in broadcast journalism, but in service to his community. Tom's leadership and passion for his career are to be commended, and his professional absence from the Northwest Indiana community will surely be missed.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, as a graduate of a Lutheran elementary school and an individual well-acquainted with the many first-rate Lutheran educational institutions in his congressional district, today this Member introduced a resolution congratulating Lutheran schools, students, parents, teachers, administrators, and congregations across the nation for their ongoing contributions to education.

This Member is proud of the Lutheran schools in the First Congressional District of Nebraska and those throughout the nation which deliver high-quality educational opportunities and challenge students to reach their full academic and spiritual potential.

Not only are Lutheran schools known for their academic quality, but for their ability to aid moral development. These institutions provide spiritual guidance to students, instilling fundamental values that are crucial to personal development. Through their education,

Lutheran school children gain an appreciation of the importance of family values, community service, and faith in their lives. This, in turn,

has helped shape students of Lutheran schools into good leaders of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this resolution, honoring the contributions of Lutheran schools in American education.